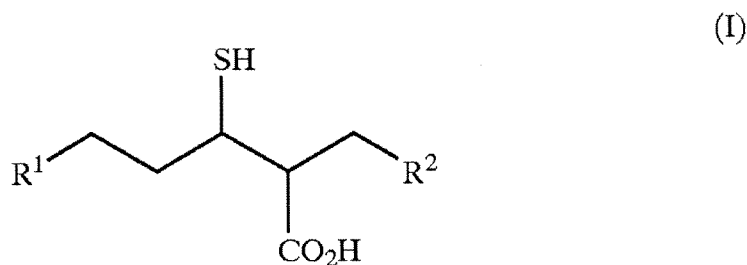


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A compound of formula (I):



wherein:

R¹ is naphthyl, pyridinyl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidin-2,4-dione-yl, tetrahydrothienyl or phenyl, wherein said phenyl is substituted by 0, 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, CF₃, OCF₃, methylenedioxy, C(O)R³, S(O)₂R⁴, phenyl, phenoxy and tetrahydrofuranyloxy;

R² is aminopyridinyl, aminothiazolyl or 3-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octyl;

R³ is hydroxy, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, NR⁵R⁶ or an N-linked 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring, wherein said N-linked 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring is substituted by 0, 1 or 2 substituents selected from hydroxy, oxo, C₁₋₄ alkyl, CO₂(C₁₋₄ alkyl) and phenyl;

R⁴ is NR⁷R⁸ or an N-linked 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring, wherein said N-linked 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring is substituted by 0 or 1 substituents selected from hydroxy, oxo, C₁₋₄ alkyl, CO₂(C₁₋₄ alkyl) and phenyl; or fused to a benzene ring which is optionally substituted by 0, 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from C₁₋₄ alkoxy;

R⁵, R⁶, R⁷ and R⁸ are, independently, hydrogen, C₂₋₄ alkenyl or C₁₋₄ alkyl, wherein said C₁₋₄ alkyl

is substituted by 0, 1 or 2 substituents selected from halogen, cyano, hydroxy, phenyl, pyridinyl, CO₂H and CO₂(C₁₋₄ alkyl);

provided that when R² is 6-aminopyridin-3-yl then R¹ is naphthyl, pyridinyl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidin-2,4-dione-yl, tetrahydrothienyl or phenyl, wherein said phenyl is substituted by 1, 2, or 3 substituents selected from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, CF₃, OCF₃, methylenedioxy, C(O)R³, S(O)₂R⁴, phenyl, phenoxy and tetrahydrofuranoxo;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 wherein R¹ is pyridinyl, tetrahydrothienyl or phenyl, wherein said phenyl is substituted by 0, 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, CF₃, OCF₃, methylenedioxy, C(O)NH₂, S(O)₂NH₂ and phenyl.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 wherein R¹ is naphthyl, pyridinyl, tetrahydrothienyl or phenyl, wherein said phenyl is substituted by 0, 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, CF₃, OCF₃, methylenedioxy, phenoxy, tetrahydrofuranoxo and tetrahydrofuranymethoxy.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 wherein R¹ is tetrahydrothienyl or phenyl, wherein said phenyl is substituted by 0, 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, CF₃ and methylenedioxy.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3 or 4 wherein R² is 6-aminopyridin-3-yl, 2-aminothiazol-5-yl or 3-azabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-8-yl.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3 or 4 wherein R² is 6-aminopyridin-3-yl.

Claim 7 (cancelled).

Claim 8 (previously presented): A pharmaceutical formulation containing a compound according to claim 1 as active ingredient in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

Claims 9-12 (cancelled).

Claim 13 (previously presented): A compound selected from

2-[(6-aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(1,1'-biphenyl-3-yl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-(1-naphthyl)pentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(3-cyanophenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
5-[3-(Aminocarbonyl)phenyl]-2-[(6-aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-[2-fluoro-4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(3-chlorophenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-pyridin-2-ylpentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-(3,4,5-triethoxyphenyl)pentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-pyridin-3-ylpentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-[4-(cyanomethyl)phenyl]-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-[4-(aminosulfonyl)phenyl]-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-[4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl]-pentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(1,3-dimethyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidin-5-yl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-(tetrahydro-2-thienyl)-pentanoic acid;

2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-[3-(hydroxymethyl)phenyl]-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-[2-(2,4-dichlorophenoxy)phenyl]-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-(4propylphenyl)pentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-4-benzylphenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(2-Amino-1,3-thiazol-5-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-phenylpentanoic acid;
2-(3-Azabicyclo[3.2.1]oct-8-ylmethyl)-3-mercapto-5-phenylpentanoic acid;
2-[(6-aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-(3-{[methyl(2-phenylethyl)amino]carbonyl}phenyl)pentanoic acid;
3-[5-(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)-4-carboxy-3-mercaptopentyl]benzoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-[3-(3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-2(1H)-ylcarbonyl)phenyl]-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-{3-[(6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-2(1H)-yl)carbonyl]phenyl}-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-{3-[(2-pyridin-2-ylethoxy)carbonyl]phenyl}pentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(3-{[2-(2,6-dichlorophenyl)ethoxy]carbonyl}phenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-[3-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl]-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(3-{[(2-fluoroethyl)amino]carbonyl}phenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-{3-[(dimethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-{3-[(vinylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}pentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-[3-({[2-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)ethyl]amino}carbonyl)phenyl]-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-{3-[(dibenzylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;

- 2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-3-{[(2-hydroxyethyl) (methyl)amino]carbonyl}phenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
- 2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-{3-[(3-hydroxypyrrolidin-1-yl)carbonyl]phenyl}-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
- 2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(3-{[4-(4-chlorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl]carbonyl}phenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
- 2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-3-{[benzyl(methyl)amino]carbonyl }phenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
- 2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-[3-(pyrrolidin-1-ylcarbonyl) phenyl]pentanoic acid;
- 2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(3-{[4-(ethoxycarbonyl)piperidin-1-yl]carbonyl}phenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
- 2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(3-{[4-hydroxymethyl)piperidin-1-yl]carbonyl}phenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
- 2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-{3-[(3-oxopiperazin-1-yl)carbonyl]phenyl)pentanoic acid;
- 2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(3-{[benzyl(3-ethoxy-3-oxopropyl)amino]carbonyl}phenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
- 2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(3-{[(cyanomethyl)(methyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
- 2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-5-(3-{[(2S)-2-(anilinomethyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl]sulfonyl}phenyl)-3-mercaptopentanoic acid;
- 2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-{3-[(methylamino)sulfonyl]-phenyl}pentanoic acid;
- 2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-(3-{[methyl(2-phenylethyl)amino]sulfonyl}phenyl)pentanoic acid;
- 2-[(6-aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-[3-(tetrahydrofuran-3-yloxy)phenyl]pentanoic acid; and
- 2-[(6-Aminopyridin-3-yl)methyl]-3-mercapto-5-[3-(tetrahydrofuran-3-ylmethoxy)-

phenyl]pentanoic acid,
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.